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Chief, Operations Group						
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GPO: 1983 O - 411-632

FBIS 5000-87 5 November 1987

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

THROUGH:

Acting Chief, Operations Group

FROM:

Chief, Okinawa Bureau

SUBJECT:

Monthly Report - Okinawa Bureau - October 1987

I. GENERAL

A. "These are the times that try men's souls" is a historic phrase that aptly describes Okinawa's multiple trials and tribulations in the last 10 days of October. They came about when the bureau's most important coverage event in 5 years, the 13th Chinese Communist Party Congress, coincided precisely with inauguration of the new FBA-1 computer system and numerous crashes thereof, the worst communications outages in recent memory, and a seemingly endless flow of visitors in and out. We all survived and learned from the crises, thanks to extra efforts and dedication by our entire staff. Our joint translation with Hong Kong Bureau of the major CPC Congress document, Zhao Ziyang's 2 1/2-hour work report broadcast and televised on 25 October, earned "high praise" from the BBC Monitoring Service for "extremely fast" processing. Countless immediate and priority items reporting on Congress daily press briefings, committee meetings and the like kept all consumers informed despite recurring outages on both Mode I and V channels. We learned after only a few days that the new FBA-1 press agency system could not cope with the high volume of Xinhua English, building up enormous backlogs of nonperishable materials until we changed back, with Headquarters approval, to the previous paper print and tape system for this service. We sent some 110 Xinhua items by military Express Mail to unclog the system. By Congress' end the system stopped crashing and all staff became faster and more adept at using it, and commo outages dropped to normal levels. System problems were detailed in numerous messages to Headquarters.

B. Evan Hineman, Deputy Director for Science and Technology, paid his first-ever visit to Okinawa and the bureau 25-27 October, meeting many bureau and U.S. military personnel and families at cocktail buffets, touring the bureau on CPC Congress opening day, and meeting and briefing top U.S. commanders on 26 October, with a 1-hour helicopter tour of Okinawa as a high point.

C. Evidence of persistent Okinawan resentment against mainland Japan's role in bringing widespread death and destruction at the close of World War II surfaced in the bureau's local village, Yomitan, on 26 October. The Hinomaru, Japan's national flag, was burned by a Yomitan man at the opening ceremonies for the softball tournament held in Yomitan as part of Okinawa's first hosting of the National Athletic Games. The protestor turned himself in after making a protest statement. No further incidents were reported against the Emperor or Crown Prince Akihito, who visited in place of his convalescing father, for the games' opening on 25 October.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

- 1. Our new, flexible processing approach in the Chinese Unit passed its toughest test with flying colors for the CPC Congress opening day, enabling us to move some 16,000 words of Zhao's main report in about 10 hours, while keeping up with video reportage from Beijing domestic TV carrying its first public Congress opening. Our half was done entirely from the excellent satellite TV sound, with secondary radio coverage being deferred briefly to permit moving the main document.
- 2. The main problem with FBA-1 press agency processing, as shown in our first experience starting 20 October, was the extremely slow, cumbersome computer manipulations required to retrieve, process and pass along Xinhua English items compared to the previous retrieval, editing and handling system using Extel printouts and perforated tape. The FBA program required moving back and forth from WriteNOW wordprocessing to database modes and slow scanning of the computer-stored Xinhua log, and the problem was accentuated by Xinhua's high traffic volume and long hours of operation. Computer directories became so large it took editors 3-4 times as long to get an item as it did before. At month's end, Lockheed specialists were devising a better way, while we were reducing our backlog by using tape and printouts on Xinhua for current material. By contrast, FBA-1 has greatly speeded handling of translated material once it reaches the editors, and monitors are becoming familiar with the system.
- 3. Two significant coverage transfers took place. Bangkok Bureau assumed primary coverage of Hanoi's VNA English press agency transmissions on 25 October, just in time to relieve Okinawa of that burden as the CPC Congress opened; Okinawa continues to monitor and store VNA in its FBA-1 press agency station to backup Bangkok. We took over both Moscow and Beijing Korean commentary program coverage from Seoul Bureau on 5 October to relieve Seoul's monitoring staff, reduced by illness and resignation. At month-end we agreed to loan Japanese/Korean senior monitor to Seoul starting 2 November to assist until Seoul's monitoring staff returns to manageable levels.

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- 4. Our Japanese Unit had major coverage of its own--Prime Minister Nakasone on 20 October chose ex-Finance Minister Noboru Takeshita to succeed him, and the new Liberal Democratic Party chief held his first televised press conference on 31 October. We also were urged by Headquarters to provide expanded coverage of Japan's reaction to the 19 October Wall Street "Black Monday" crash and the gyrations of Tokyo's own stock exchange, the world's largest, and other financial and economic developments.
- 5. We exchanged views with Hong Kong, London and MOD on how best to back up our primary coverage of Beijing Xinhua English when it shows seasonal propagation problems each fall and spring, usually during local late evening. All have agreed to continue with London as a primary backup for this service, using its new computer storage, to avoid Hong Kong late-night staffing problems.

B. Cruising

We reported another Moscow Mandarin change in announcements for four local evening transmissions from 1100 through 1500 GMT, again describing them as for listeners in Southeast Asia. Cruisers provided fall seasonal updates on Beijing and Moscow Radio and Moscow Peace and Progress broadcasts in international services and noted both Tokyo KYODO English and Iran's IRNA English transmissions on the 63 East satellite. Satellite cruising was very limited because of Beijing and Moscow TV commitments on our single 10-meter dish.

C. Technical

- 1. Bureau technicians played a major role in timely completion of the FBA-l computer system installation, which had to be placed in steel conduit to avoid serious EMI damage to low-level RF signals running in the same cable trenches from our surrounding antenna field. They also rewired press agency converters to serve both the FBA-l press agency computer as well as eight press printers for our most important press coverage. These allow continuous monitoring of reception quality, not possible with FBA-l, and also provide perforated paper tape for primary and backup use.
- 2. Regional Engineer was TDYed to Manila to install radios and related gear for the new remote monitoring system, unfortunately right in the middle of catastrophic Okinawa communications outages and new FBA-1 system crashes on 27-30 October. kept so busy inside the Embassy that none of the 28 October sniper attacks could target him. As a result of the sniper attacks and general unrest in the Philippines, Kadena Air Base has imposed tight controls over all travel to Clark AFB, and leave travel to the Philippines is banned completely.
- 3. Technical installation of equipment for testing new international direct dial modems was completed, allowing TDYing GE contractor to test transmissions to Far Eastern bureaus and Headquarters during his 16-31 October TDY. The IDD system is a possible future backup communications altroute.

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4. A new 4.5 -meter ROSET antenna system purchased by Bangkok Bureau for Okinawa arrived on 27 October, only 4 days after MAC shipment, and was being unpacked and readied for installation at month-end. It will replace the "Pesos" dish destroyed by Typhoon Dinah on 29 August.

D. Communications

The bureau experienced its worst communications outages in at
least 5 years in late October, mostly on Mode I, simultaneously with
inauguration of the new FBA-1 system. Repeated checks and queries
established that the primary causes lie in Guam ASC. These outages
reemphasized the value of our Mode V Yokota ASC backup circuit, which
enables us to send and receive secure cables as well as back up other
Asian FBIS bureaus sending to us by telex.

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III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. Chinese monitor was promoted from trainee
FBN-7 to FBN-8. Trainee advised us he intends to resign and return to Taiwan in December. Processing of replacement monitor applicants continue.

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2. Four bureau TCN employees were presented federal service pins in bureau chief's office ceremonies 21 October: associate editor 25 years, Japanese monitor 20, associate editor and Chinese monitor 10 years each.

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3. The dollar began sinking to new all time record lows against the Japanese yen at month-end, in the 137 to \$1.00 range, apparently ensuring that Okinawa's Class 25 COLA will remain intact for the forseeable future. This is the lowest rate since 1948.

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4. Regional medical officer paid his first visit to Okinawa since arriving this summer, examining and certifying three TCN families for Overseas Medical Benefits Program coverage, and paying calls on major commanders at the Camp Lester Navy Hospital, accompanied by admin officer We have now arranged a charge system with Lester hospital, so that a monthly billing will take care of all bureau personnel medical visits.

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B. Buildings and Grounds

Lt. Col Jerry Berry, Okinawa Area commander, Corps of Engineers, visited the bureau 20 October with his staff to provide the first of new monthly updates on our FBIS housing recap program. We have been advised that all materials have now arrived to complete the new 3-bedroom duplex and the seven 4-bedroom house renovations. We were given revised cost

estimates to remodel a 3-bedroom house into a 2-bedroom duplex, but costs still appear too high. We also discussed further the next design stage for the 16-house GSWK renovation project. GSWK houses were inspected to determine the extent of any termite damage in roof substructures and air conditioning units. We expect to have 90 percent design drawings completed by the end of November, with contract award early in 1988.

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IV. VISITORS			
To the Bureau:			
Lockheed Electronics Co. computer specialists arrived 2 October for FBA-1; LEC's			
on 9 October; ADD's and GE contractor on 16 October: Tokyo communications trainer on 19 October; Seoul security technicians to			
install alarm systems 22-24 October; DD/S&T Evan Hineman 25-27 October;			
RMO 28-30 October for orientation and tour of Camp			
Lester Navy Hospital; DOD Special Representative Yokota specialists Randy			
Casper and Sergeant Clack, on 7 October for briefing on ROSET antenna			
capabilities.			
From the Bureau:			
Bureau chief to First Special Forces Group, First Battalion, Torii			
Station, on 5 October for courtesy call on commander Lt. Col Travis			
Griffin; bureau chief, accompanying Evan Hineman, for courtesy calls and			
briefings with 313th Air Division commander Brig. Gen. Peter D. Robinson			
and III Marines Amphibious Force/3rd Marine Division Commander Maj. Gen.			
Norman H. Smith, and to Hanza Naval Security Group Activity commander Capt. John Moore, all on 26 October; Logistics officer			
Headquarters TDY on 19 October while on R&R leave in the U.S.; regional			
engineer to Manila 27-30 October for installation of Hong			
Kong remote equipment; LEC computer installers			
departed 22 and 24 October, and on 29 October; GE			
departed on 31 October for Seoul and further modem			
testing.			
V. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES			
A number of FBIS and Lockheed employees with families made a 12			
October Columbus Day boat trip to Tsuken Island for snorkeling, SCUBA			
lessons and picnicking. Bureau personnel and spouses met DDS&T Evan			
Hineman at a 25 October cocktail buffet at the bureau chief's residence,			
and Okinawa military and consul general leadership met him on 26 October at a similar soiree.			
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ATTACHMENTS:

Production Report
Engineering Equipment Attachment

OKINAWA BUREAU ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT ATTACHMENT

EQUIPMENT RECEIVED:

SONY U-MATIC VIDEO RECORDER, MDL 5630,

S/N 64236, 64252, 64255, 64257.

SHARP TV MONITOR, MDL 14S11-A1, S/N

311954, 311133, 312040.

DATA SPECIALTIES, READER/PUNCH, MDL

NC2400M, S/N 112683.

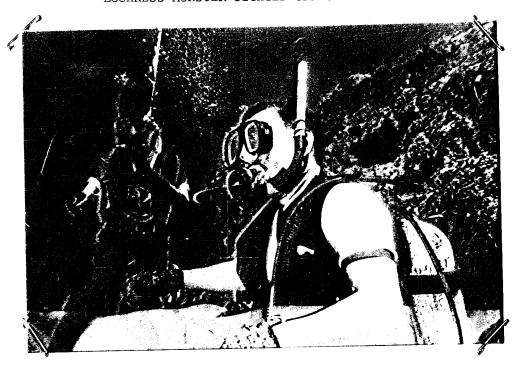
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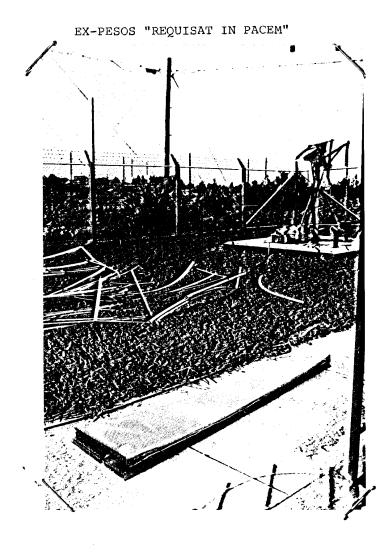
RECEIVED FROM BANGKOK.

EQUIPMENT TRANSFERRED: NONE.

EQUIPMENT DISPOSAL: NONE.

LOCHNESS MONSTER SIGHTED OFF OKINAWA





OKINAWA BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR OCTOBER 1987

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 985,890
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 543,150
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH: 2,909

II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	BROAD- CASTS 21,225 min.	PRESS AGENCIES 17,280 min.	PUBLI- CATIONS 175.79 issues
III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES: CAMBODIA Phnom Penh SPK in English			
CHINA Beijing International Service to East and South Africa in English			
Beijing International Service to North America in English	2,940		
Beijing International Service in Japanese	1,040		
Beijing International Service in Korean	1,070		
Beijing International Service in Mandarin			
Beijing to Taiwan in Mandarin	3,490		
Beijing to the USSR in Russian	6,380		
Beijing Domestic Service in Mandarin	32,950		
Beijing Television Service in Mandarin	22,210		
Fuzhou Fujian Provincial Service in Mandarin	980		
Hangzhou Zhejiang Provincial Service in Mandarin Hefei Anhui Provincial Service in	910		
Mandarin Nanchang Jiangxi Provincial Service in	4,500		
Mandarin Nanjing Jiangsu Provincial Service in	5,460		
Mandarin Shanghai City Service in	3,310		
Mandarin	6,580		

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Beijing HONGQI in Chinese Beijing XINHUA in			28,180
English		450,970	
Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese		88,860	
Beijing BELJING REVIEW in		•	27.662
English Fu zh ou FUJIAN RIBAO in			27,660
Chinese Hefei ANHUI RIBAO in			1,660
Chinese			2,240
Hangzhou ZHEJIANG RIBAO in Chinese			3,410
Nanjing XINHUA RIBAO in			·
Chinese Shanghai JIEFANG RIBAO in			530
Chinese			2,110
Shanghai WEN HUI BAO in Chinese			3,450
Niscellaneous Editorial Reports	4,040		
Editorial Reports	,,,,,,,	·* 3	
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J A PAN			
Naha Radio NHK in	160		
Japanese Tokyo NHK Television Network in	180		
Japanese Tokyo JPS in	5,510		
English		950	
Tokyo KYODO in English		115,350	
Tokyo JIJI in			
English Tokyo AKAHA TA in		5,480	
Japanese			
Tokyo ASAHI SHIMBUN in Japanese			
Tokyo ASAHI EVENING NEWS in			
English Tokyo JAPAN ECONOMIC JOURNAL in			7,360
English			700
Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English			8,510
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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Tokyo MAINICHI SHIMBUN in			(200
Japanese Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in			6,890
Japanese The Japanese			4,910
Tokyo SANKEI SHIMBUN in			1,610
Japanese Tokyo THE DAILY YOMIURI in			-
English			7,970
Tokyo THE JAPAN TIMES in English			4,570
Tokyo TOKYO SHIMBUN in			
Japanese Tokyo YOMIURI SHIMBUN in			
Japanese Naha OKINAWA TIMES in			4,460
Japanese			
Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in			
Japanese			600
KOREA (NORTH) Pyongyang KCNA in English			
LAOS			
Vientiane KPL in			
English			
MONGOL IA			
Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in		700	
English Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in		730	
Russian		3,860	
TAIWAN			
Taipei International Service in English	5,5	80	
Taipei Domestic Service in	,,,		
Mandarin	3,2	80	
Taipei CNA in English		15,170	
Taipei CHINA POST in		13,170	
English			3,150
Taipei CHING CHI JIH PAO in Chinese			950
Taipei CHUNG KUO SHIH PAO in			
Chinese			
Taipei CHUNG YANG JIH PAO in Chinese			

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBL 10 CATIONS
Taipei LIEN HO PAO in Chinese			
Taipei TZU LI WAN PAO in Chinese			
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS Moscow to Japan in			
Japanese Moscow International Service in	3,230		
Mandarin Moscow to Southeast in Mandarin	7,410		
Moscow Radio Peace & Progress to Asia-Pacific Region in Mandarin	1,110		
Moscow International Service in Korean Moscow Domestic Television Service in	650		
Russian	7,720		
VIETNAM Hanoi In ternational Service in Mandarin			
Hanoi VNA in English		52,710	